



S/N 10/810,547

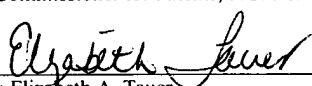
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	THOMPSON ET AL.	Examiner:	M. CONNELLY
Serial No.:	10/810,547	Group Art Unit:	2874
Filed:	MARCH 26, 2004	Docket No.:	2316.926USRE
Title:	OUTSIDE PLANT FIBER DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS AND METHOD		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 January 23, 2006.

By:   
Name: Elizabeth A. Tauer

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c))

Mail Stop Amendments  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits or a first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but before the mailing date of: i) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113; ii) a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or iii) an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the application. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$180 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/689,989 filed on October 13, 2000, now U.S. Patent 6,363,200 B1, issued March 26, 2002.

01/25/2006 CCHAU1 00000042 10810547

02 FC:1806

180.00 OP

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

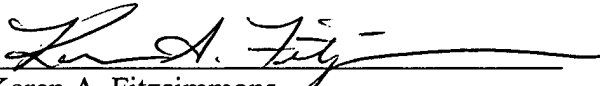
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.



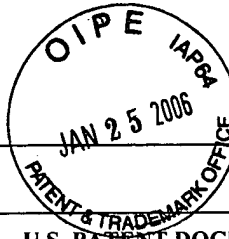
Date: Jan. 23, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

  
Karen A. Fitzsimmons  
Reg. No. 50,470  
KAF:cjc

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 2316.926USRE	Application Number: 10/810,547
	Applicant: THOMPSON ET AL.	
	Filing Date: MARCH 26, 2004	Group Art Unit: 2874



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	RE 34,955	05/1995	Anton et al.			
	5,129,030	07/1992	Petrunia			
	5,214,735	05/1993	Henneberger et al.			
	5,367,598	11/1994	Devenish, III et al.			
	5,701,380	12/1997	Larson et al.			
	5,734,776	03/1998	Puetz			
	5,758,003	05/1998	Wheeler et al.			
	5,894,540	04/1999	Drewing			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	0 851 257 A1	07/1998	EP				
	9-15426	01/1997	JP				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

**23552**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	